



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER PHIL ANGELIDES

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Contact: Nick Papas
(916) 651-6088

**TREASURER ANGELIDES, JOINED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER MARK LENO,
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR JAKE MCGOLDRICK AND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS, PRESENTS SAN FRANCISCO LIBRARIES WITH STATE GRANTS
TOTALING MORE THAN \$9.7 MILLION**

***FUNDS WILL HELP CONSTRUCT A NEW BUILDING FOR THE INGLESIDE BRANCH
AND RENOVATE THE RICHMOND BRANCH LIBRARY***

SAN FRANCISCO - State Treasurer Phil Angelides today presented state grants totaling over \$9.7 million to the City and County of San Francisco to assist in the construction of a new building for the Ingleside Branch Library and the renovation and expansion of the existing Richmond Branch Library. The California Public Library Construction and Renovation Board, of which the Treasurer is a member, awarded the funds for the San Francisco library projects.

“California voters made a clear statement in March 2000 when they passed the Library Bond Act: They wanted more books, new computers, and buildings that are worthy of our children’s and our State’s future,” Angelides said. “First-class libraries, such as the new Ingleside Branch and Richmond Library in San Francisco, will help bridge the literacy gap and the digital divide that prevent Californians from attaining educational success.”

Assemblymember Mark Leno, Supervisor Jake McGoldrick, City Librarian Luis Herrera, and dozens of community members and activists joined the Treasurer at a press conference on the site of the existing Richmond/Senator Milton Marks Branch Library. The group outlined the need for newer, more modern libraries to serve the Ingleside and Richmond communities.

“The design of both the Ingleside and Richmond Libraries and its programs demonstrates the deep commitment of the people of San Francisco to children, education, and lifelong learning. We are excited to partner with the State of California to build great libraries for the people of San Francisco” noted Assemblyman Mark Leno.

The new Ingleside Branch Library building will be funded by both the state grant and a local bond measure to upgrade San Francisco’s branch library system that was passed overwhelmingly by voters in November 2000. The existing library is in a leased building, while the newly constructed library will be a part of a new city-owned building, a priority voters established in the local bond measure. The new building, located at the corner of Ocean Avenue at Plymouth, will be 22% larger than the existing library. The new library will also include more services including after-school programs, after-hours access for community meetings, wireless (Wi-Fi) access to the Internet, a teen area, and public art displays.

The Richmond Branch Library Expansion and Renovation project will add 4,000 square feet of library space to the existing library and will include seismic strengthening, accessibility improvements, and energy-efficiency and technology upgrades. The historic integrity of this 1914 Carnegie landmark will be maintained and the building will be restored to its original grandeur.

Groundbreaking for the Ingleside Branch Library is expected in Spring 2006, with completion anticipated in early 2008. The Richmond Branch Library Renovation and Expansion project is due to begin 2006 and reopen in fall 2008.

The Library Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 14), approved by California voters in March 2000, made \$350 million available to help California communities build new libraries and expand and remodel existing facilities. In the third round of awards, the California Public Library Construction and Renovation Board awarded \$80.6 million in Library Bond Act funding.

The award process for Bond Act funds was extremely competitive – in the third round alone, 72 localities submitted applications totaling over \$586 million in requested funds, more than six times the available funding. Of these, twelve library projects were selected to receive bond act funding, including the two San Francisco projects.

Treasurer Angelides pushed the Library Board to consider smart growth principles, including proximity to transit and location within economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, in considering projects for Library Bond Act funding. Applications were also evaluated based on several factors, including: population growth, the age and condition of existing library facilities, the project's plans for integration of electronic technology, and the degree to which the location and scale of the project met the community's needs.

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